HM? YES, IT'S OUR 7TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY.

THAT MEANS, YOU'VE ENJOYED 7 YEARS WORTH OF RELEASES, MORE OR LESS.

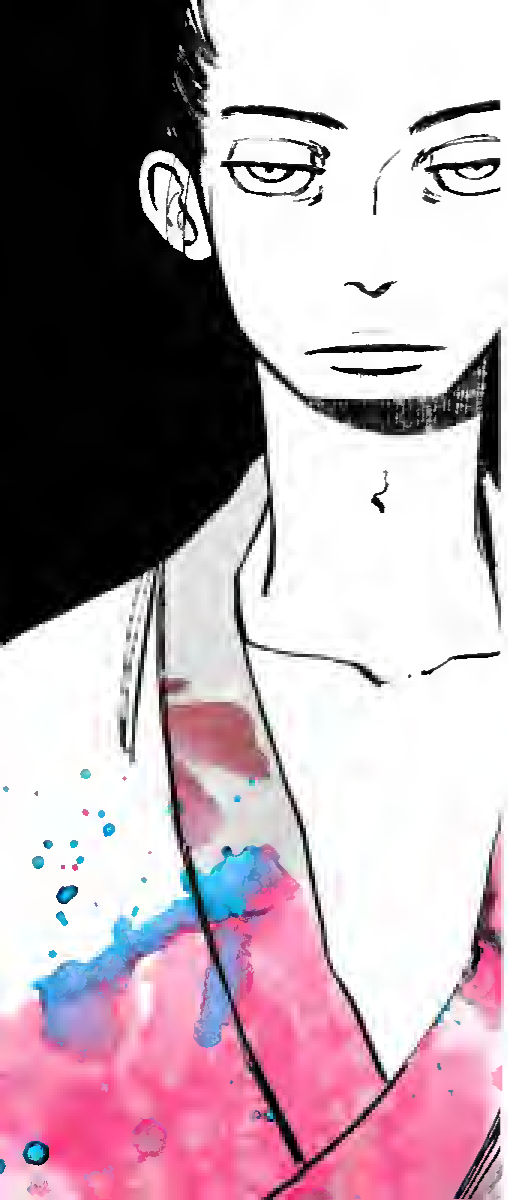
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN SPARE JUUUUST A FEW MINUTES TO COME AND TELL US ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE READING WHAT YOU JUST READ?

It's only a few keys and clicks away_

We would really appreciate it.

- Heels Team 2009~2016

www.stilettoheelsteam.net
or tweet us at: shteam0630



Stilettoheelsteam.net
"Chonmage-style"

Futagashira

by Natsume ONO

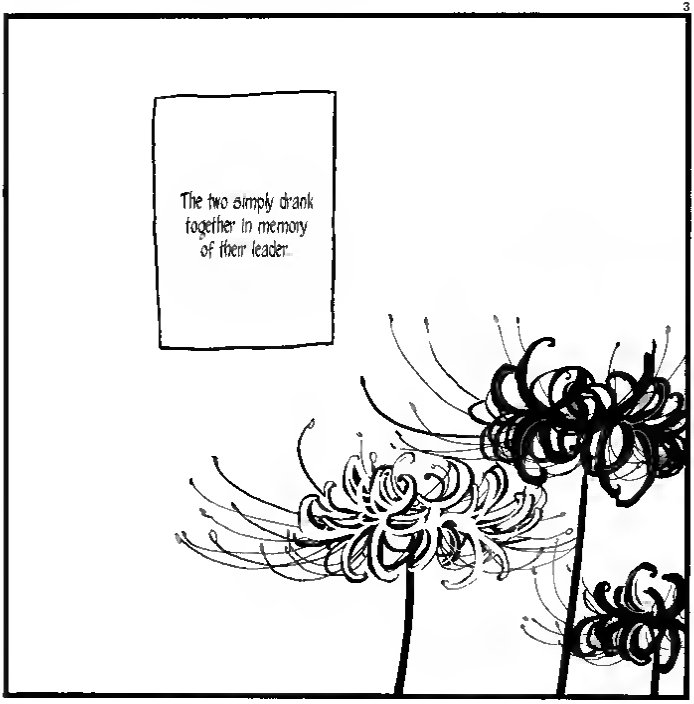
Volume 1, Chapter 2

Translated by...Hats
Proofread by..../Megan
Edited by.../Minelawa
Quality Checks by...
Stiletto

Chapter Two

The night their leader, Tatsugoro, laid on his sickbed and held their hands was the night he breathed his last.

No words were exchanged.


The two simply drank together in memory of their leader.

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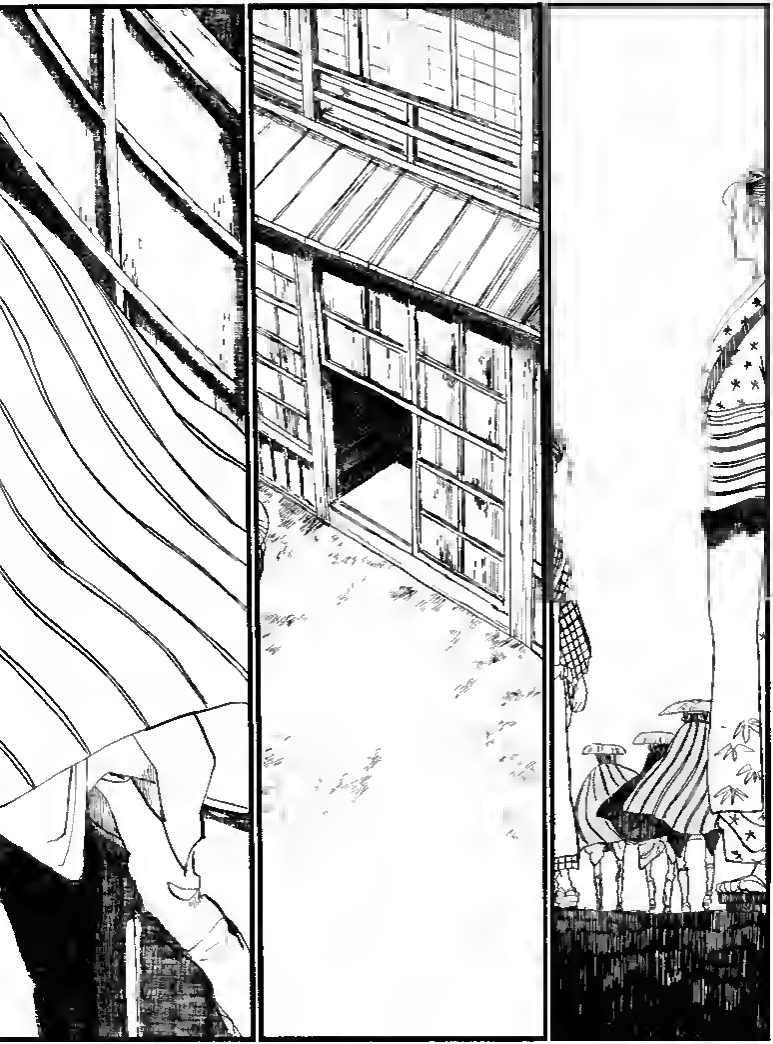
Volume 1



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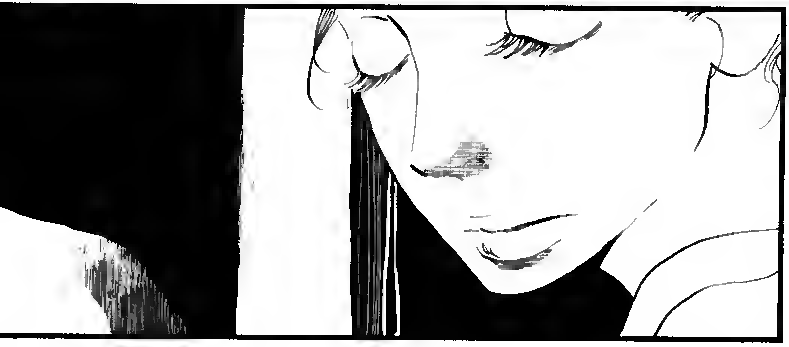
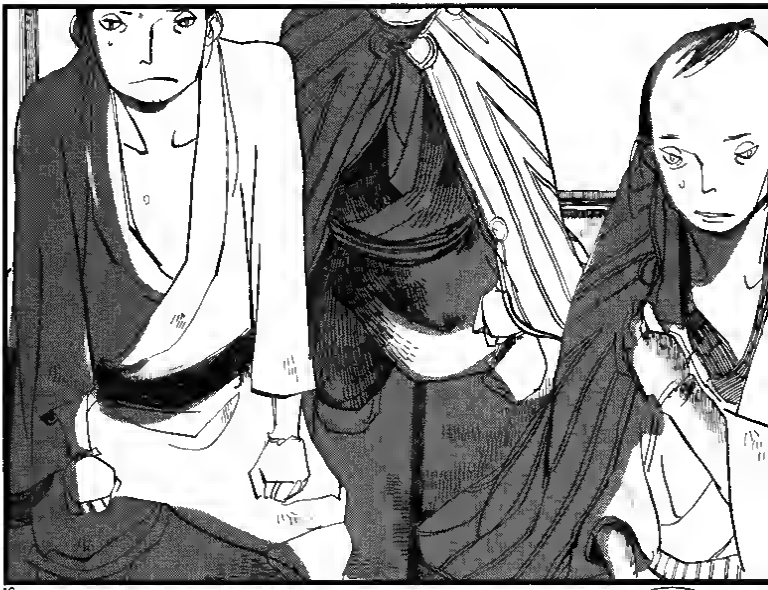




12

I rushed over the moment your letter reached me..
He may be dead, or at death's door...
What has become of...
Tatsugoro ...?
Is it true that Tatsugoro is dead?

Open the door
Just look at his face and you'll know.

Tatsugoro...
Hold off on burning incense.
He was troubled with heart disease.
We were in attendance.
The pain overtook him and he died.

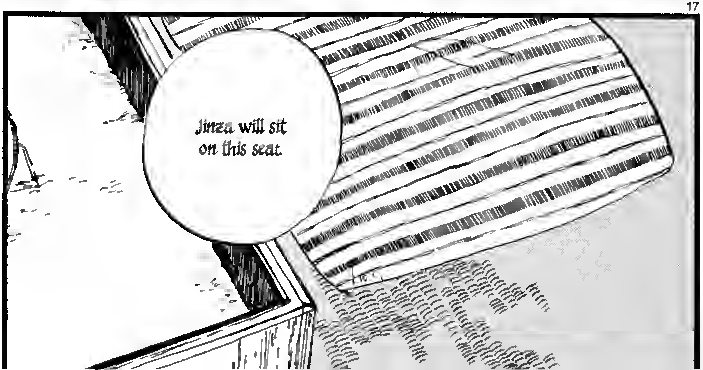
How old was Tatsugoro? He still seemed spry..
...at his deathbed.
This had to happen while we were traveling to the east.

Preparations for our next raid were ahead of schedule too.

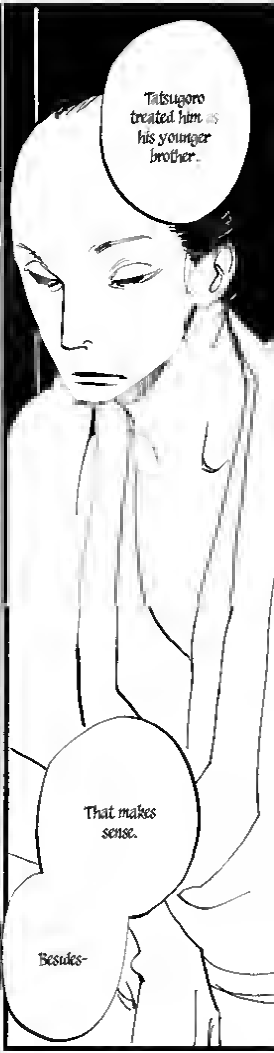
We're so damn close.

I'll take up the job.
As confidence for our leader.
Who's... going to be in control?
Yes...
Someone needs to take control of the agency
What happens after the job?
Are we to make someone leader or will we split up?

17


Jinza will sit on this seat.

Ane-san.

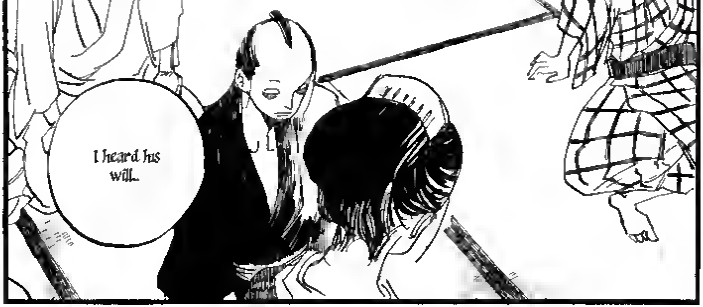

Tatsugoro treated him as his younger brother.
That makes sense.
Besides-

I'm pretty sure you heard Tatsugoro's will, right?

Hold your horses.

The doctor, eh? The man probably figured he couldn't have you anymore, so he gave up
Don't you dare say a word against me when I was the one running around calling for the doctor!
You're crossing the line here!
to be at his side in time for his death.
There's one person here who must've been too busy cavorting with another man, while her husband lay writhing in pain on his sickbed.
No, maybe she didn't hear it.

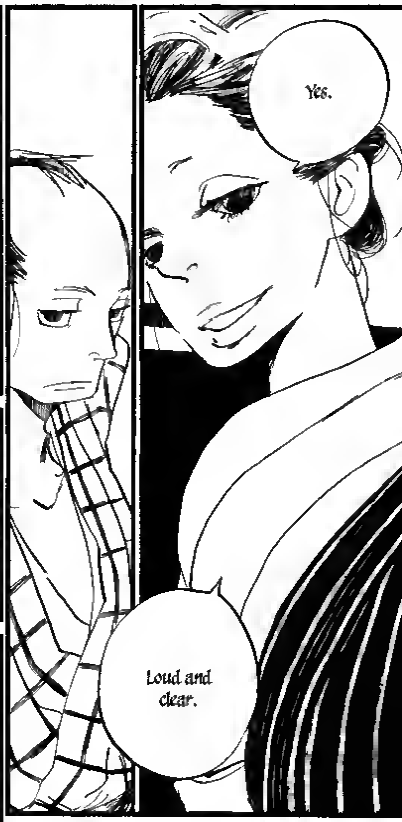
All you have going for you are your tempting proposals, eh?


I heard his will.

What do you men think?
Who do you think should take his place?
Well?

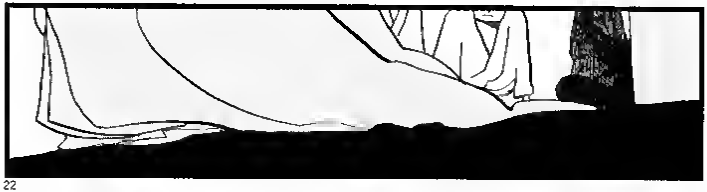
Or is there anyone among you, who wants to volunteer himself?

Akame Agency!


Yes.
Loud and clear.

Who will be our leader?
He said, "I leave it to Jinza."
Ane-san, do you take us for fools?
Uh!
If we include your underlings, then we're fifty men strong.
Spread word around about the work we've done so far and gather all the manservants who want to be in our ranks.
This will be the instrument to make it happen.

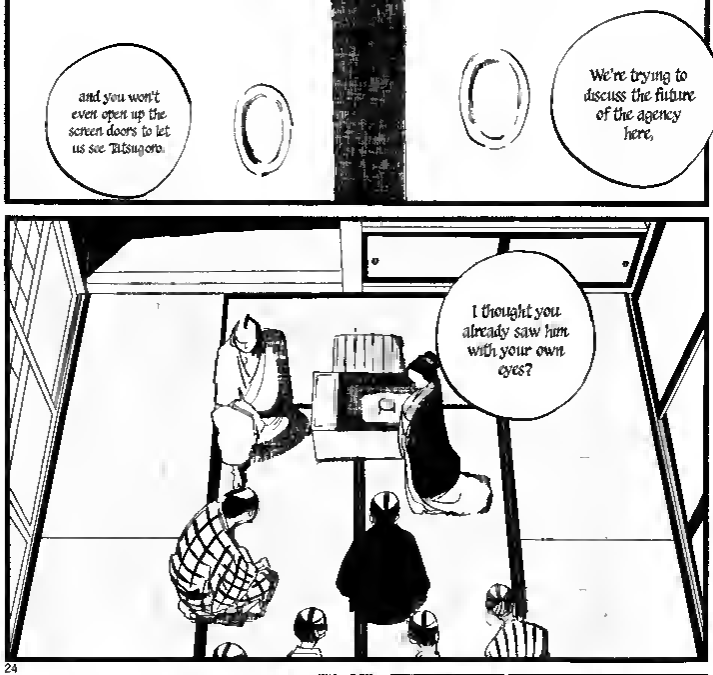
I'm certain you heard the same as well?
Tatsugoro clasped our hands like this,
and said, "I leave Akame to you."
That's...
...what he said.



22

His will.

Are you satisfied?
Jinzaburo.
That's me.
It reads, "I leave the Akame Agency to Jinzaburo."


We're trying to discuss the future of the agency here,
and you won't even open up the screen doors to let us see Tatsugoro.
I thought you already saw him with your own eyes?

Maybe you don't want anyone to see...
...this farce you've cooked up
You're the ones cooking up a farce.
Do you think we can leave the agency to rookies like you?
Who would believe that?
Both you kids put together barely make up half a man, and you think our men will follow you?

In return for his wife's kindess, you make her your enemy?
Tatsugoro is dying!
Oh, how painful! How lonely!
Ane-san, won't you come and sleep with me...
...to take away some of this pain?
Yeah? What the hell were you doing when the man who took care of you was dying?

Ann-san...
Stop!
He's just whining over sour grapes.
Suffering, my foot!
You were just biding your time, waiting for him to die!

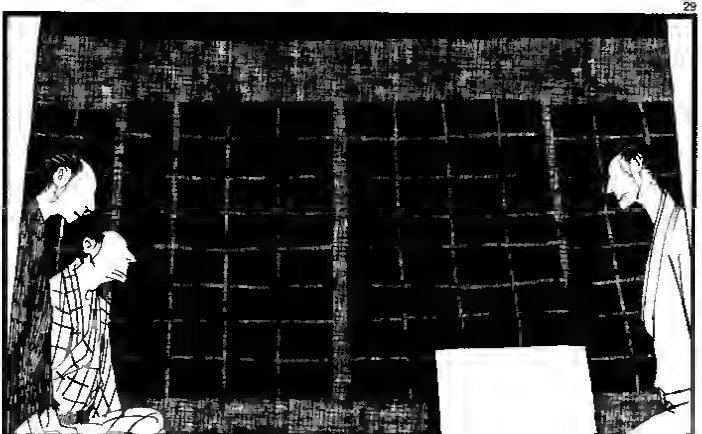
Listen up, everyone.
Jinzaburo will now be our leader
Open up the screen doors.
..Yes, it is
Is that Tatsugoro's writing?

He's the man Tatsugoro decided on.

Yes. Tatsugoro was certainly fond of you two.

If he truly "left" things to you,
then perhaps he's asking you to lend a hand?
To protect the agency.

29



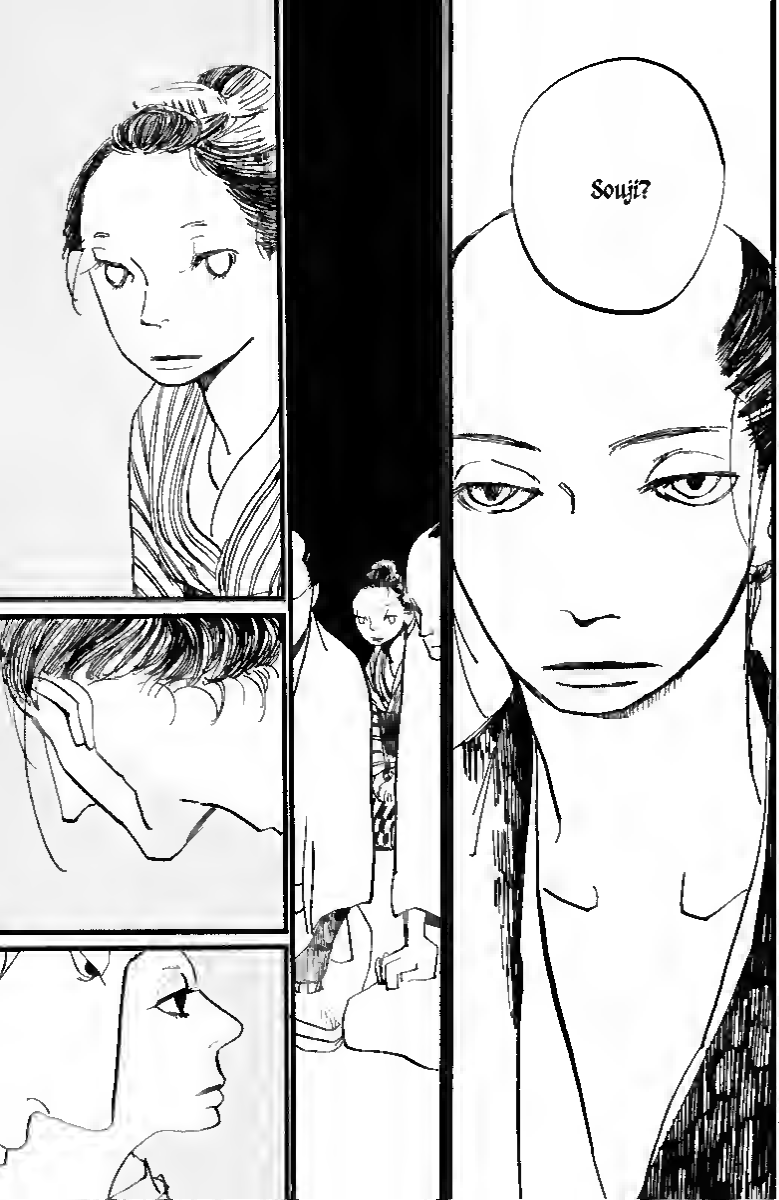
If anyone wants to object, then get out.
Not a word once you enter our turf,
If I happen to come across you again,
think of your life as over
and not a word to anyone about us when you leave.

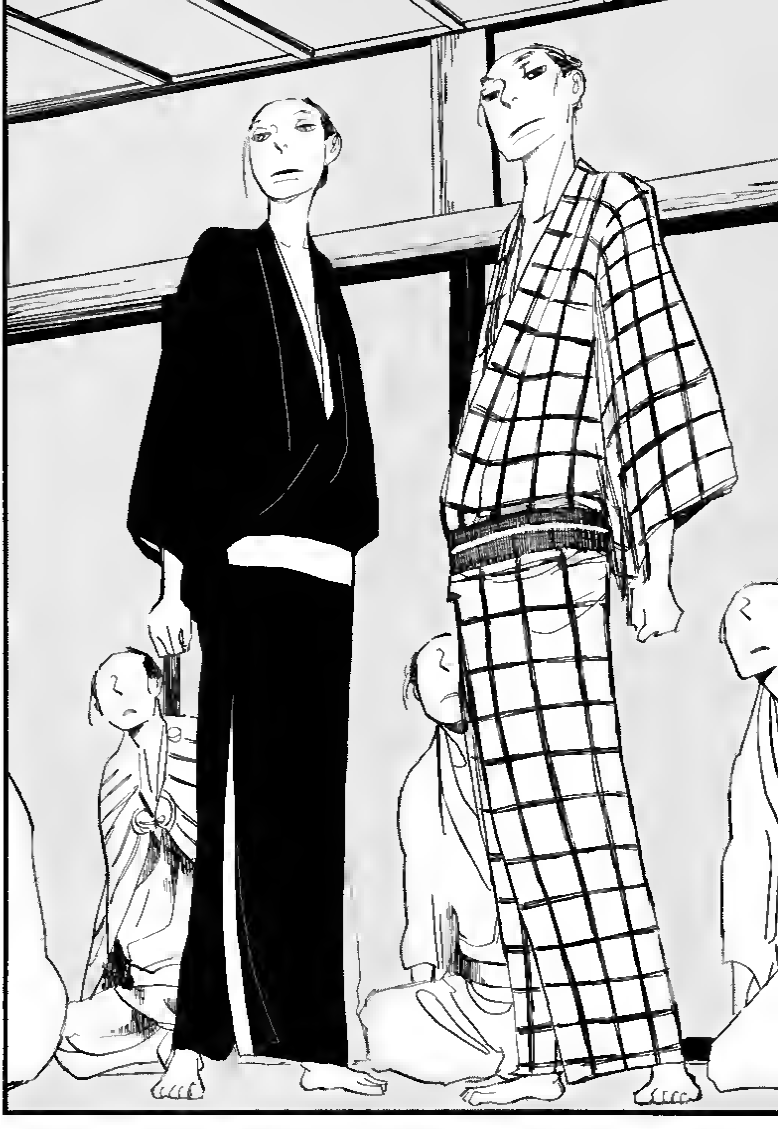
30

Nevertheless, if you want to go, then go

Benzo?

Will you stay...
...or go?
What will you do?


Souji?



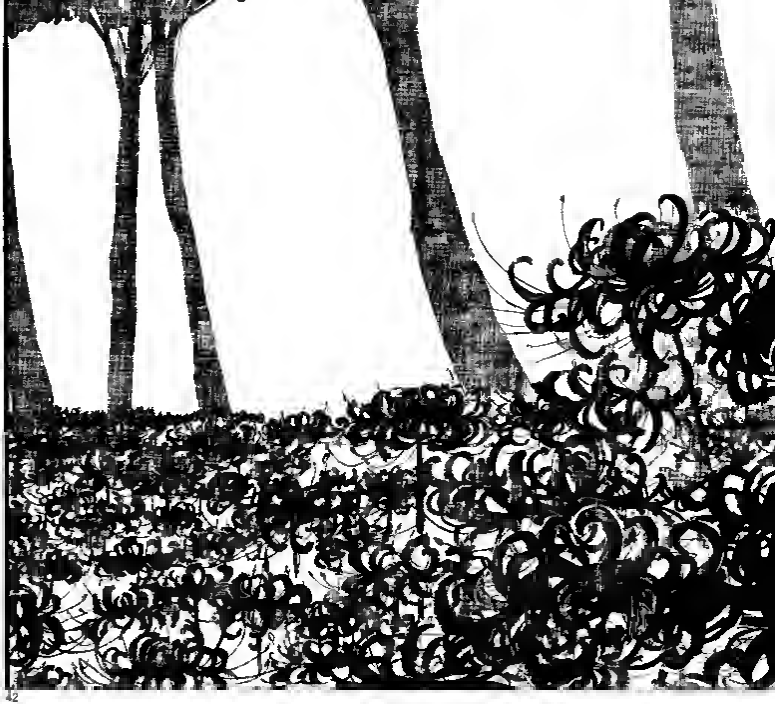
Wait.

You bastards think you can just shut up and walk away so easily after licking off our plates?

Aren't you, yourselves, taking US for fools?

You'll go nowhere.
Not when your ugly mug's leading the Akame name.
So long!

And what about all of you?
If any of you want to follow them, then get the hell out!



Guess nobody's coming after all.

Does it bother you?
She's nothing but a puppet for Ane-san anyway.
She didn't come either.
Don't need 'em anyway.
No.
Women will only get in the way of our journey.

Well, then.

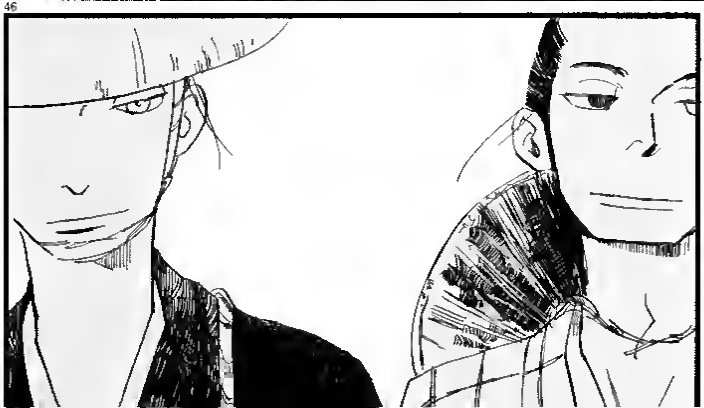
Where shall we go?
Of course, anywhere in this vicinity or patrolled by their subordinates won't work.

Let's go to Osaka.
First, we'll need to rely on some leader we're friendly with.
At first.
Didn't you say before that you helped some guy out with money there?
Should we leave Odawara?
No.
Let's head down to Hiratsuka.

Alright. Hiratsuka it is.

Will flowers bloom all over Tatsugoro's grave as well?
Can't wait to see it turn into a riot of color.

The next time we return here, that is



But you know what, Souji?
That bastard Imeaburo...
Can't get in too deep with that woman.
You won't be able to pull yourself out.
Bet it's because she's got that fine body.
Yeah, you said it.
...ended up as one of Ane-san's pawns.
Guess he's got no backbone.

What!
You too, huh?
So did you.
She lured me in with that sweet voice of hers.
Souji, she says. Come over here for...
...a minute.
Yeah, and she sure smelled good too